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REMARKS

Claims 47-54 are added to capture the allowable material in Claims 29 and 33-34. Claim 47 includes the limitations of Claims 24, 27, 28 and 29. Claims 48 and 49 are Claims 25 and 26 rewritten to correctly depend from Claim 47. Claims 50, 51, and 54 are Claims 30, 31 and 34 rewritten to correctly depend from Claim 47. Claim 52 is Claim 32 rewritten to depend from Claim 51 and Claim 53 is Claim 33 rewritten to correctly depend from Claim 52.

Claims 55-61 are added to capture the allowable material in Claim 40 and 43-44. Claim 55 includes the limitations of Claims 35, 38, 39, and 40. Claims 56 and 57 are Claims 36 and 37 rewritten to correctly depend from Claim 55. Claims 58 and 61 are Claims 41 and 44 rewritten to correctly depend from Claim 55. Claim 59 is Claim 42 rewritten to depend from Claim 58.

Claims 24-61 are pending.

The Abstract is amended as suggested by the Examiner.

I. DRAWINGS

The Examiner stated that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. The Examiner, therefore, states that the limitations of (sic) claim 1 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). The Examiner requests the Applicant to provide (such as state diagrams) showing the steps described in the specification. Further, the Examiner objects to the drawings because they are not formal (presentable).

Since Claim 1 was canceled and Claims 24-46 were added, the Applicant assumes the Examiner is referring to method Claim 24. Claim 24 is a method claim directed to a method of operating a distributed processing system having a network for coupling a multiplicity of Host distributed devices to process workloads for the distributed processing system, a plurality of Client systems requesting processing of

the workloads, and a Server system for selectively distributing the workloads from the plurality of Client systems for processing by the distributed processing system comprising the three steps. There is no Figure with a flow chart having the specific steps of Claim 24. The Applicant can add such a flow chart to satisfy the Examiner's request provided no new matter is introduced. Claim 24 recites step (1) generating an offer to provide processing services as an incentive for a Host distributed device to couple to the network as one of the multiplicity of Host distributed devices, wherein the processing services are available only by a processing capability provided by the distributed processing system, step (2) providing a first processing service selected from the processing services in response to the first Host distributed device coupling to the network to process workloads for the distributed processing system; and step (3) updating capabilities of the processing services in response to the first Host distributed device coupling to the network to process workloads for the distributed processing system. FIGS. 1A, 1B, 2C, etc. illustrate the network, multiplicity of Host distributed devices, Client systems, Server system, incentives 126, incentive advertising 276, etc.

Regarding step (1) of Claim 24, in the Specification, page 11-12 it states:

"The incentives block 126 is also a subset of the server systems 104 and represents an incentive provided to the users or owners of the clients systems 108, 110 ... 112 for allowing capabilities of the clients systems 108, 110 ... 112 to be utilized by the distributed processing system 100. The client systems 108, 110 and 112 represent any number of systems and/or devices that may be identified, organized and utilized by the server systems 104 to accomplish a desired task, for example, personal computer systems (PCs), internet appliances, notebook computers, servers, storage devices, network attached storage (NAS) devices, wireless devices, hand-held devices, or any other computing device that has useful capabilities and is connected to a network in any manner. The server systems 104 represent any number of processing systems that provide the function of identifying, organizing and utilizing the client systems to achieve the desired tasks.

The incentives provided by the incentives block 126 may be any desired incentive. For example, the incentive may be a sweepstakes in which entries are given to client systems 108, 110 ... 112 that are signed up to be utilized by the distributed processing system 100. Other example incentives are reward systems, such as airline frequent-flyer miles, purchase credits and vouchers, payments of money, monetary prizes, property prizes, free trips, time-share rentals, cruises, connectivity services, free or reduced cost Internet access, domain name hosting, mail accounts, participation in significant research projects, achievement of personal goals, or any other desired incentive or reward."

Therefore, generating an incentive to provide processing services available by the distributed processing system would be included in the various incentives listed on page 12 of the Specification. In step (2) a particular processing service is provided to a distributed device in response to the distributed device coupling to the network to process workloads as part of the distributed processing system. Since the incentive of step (1) was an offer of a processing service, the natural consequence of a first Host distributed device becoming part of the distributed processing system would be providing the offered processing service to the first Host distributed device. In steps (3) the capability of the processing services (only provided by the distributed processing system) are updated in response to the first host distributed device becoming part of the distributed processing system. The capability of the distributed processing system is directly related to the number of Host distributed devices that are coupled to the network to process workloads (e.g., to supply a processing service) for the distributed processing system. If a processing service is provided to a Host distributed device when it joins the distributed processing system, the capability of the distributed processing system would be improved (more distributed devices to process workloads) and thus the capabilities of providing the processing service can be updated.

Therefore, the Applicant has added FIG. 16 to conform to the Examiner's request that a flow chart illustrating the steps of Claim 24 be added.

II. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 24-25, 35-36 and 45-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,790, 789 to *Larry Suarez* (hereafter "*Suarez*") in view of "*GIMPS Finds First Million-Digit Prime, Stake Claim to \$50,000 EFF Award. 2<sup>6,972,593</sup> is now the Largest Known Prime*" ([www.Mersenne.org](http://www.Mersenne.org)) (hereafter "*Mersenne*").

For a reference to anticipate a claimed invention, the reference must disclose every aspect of the claimed invention. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 U.S.P.Q.2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

The Examiner states that with regard to Claims 24-25, 35-36, and 45-46, *Suarez* discloses step (2) of Claim 24 and cites *Suarez*, column 6, lines 12-29, column 7, lines 4-13, column 9, lines 40-64, column 12, lines 37-64, and FIGS. 1-2. In these recitations, *Suarez* is describing how a computing environment is partitioned into a plurality of services where *Suarez* defines "service" as a unit of work. "Services", according to *Suarez*, "are typically embodied in software applications, electronic mail, applications systems, software fragments or modules, macros, database procedures, physical actions of individuals, and operation of physical equipment." *Suarez* states, column 9, lines 7-13; "Much like, related art software solutions partitioned large software applications into a series of smaller segments in accordance with a series of rules, the present system partitions the computing environment into a plurality of services yet does not impose any rules in such partitioning or derivation of services." The Applicant asserts that *Suarez* does not disclose providing the processing service that is only available only by a processing capability provided by the distributed processing system. The distributed processing system of Claim 24 comprises a multiplicity (large number) of distributed devices that are coupled to

process workloads for the distributed processing system. The distributed processing system can offer certain processing services only because it can draw on the power of the multiplicity (large number) of distributed devices. When a first distributed device joins (agrees to process workloads for) the distributed processing system, it adds to the processing capability of the distributed processing system. Step (2) of Claim 24 recites providing the processing service (of step (1)), available only from the distributed processing system, in response to the first distributed device joining the distributed processing system. While *Suarez* discloses a distributed processing system, *Suarez* does not disclose step (2) of Claim 24.

The Examiner states that *Suarez* discloses step (3) of Claim 24 and recites column 13, lines 39-67 and column 21, lines 37-51. In column 13, lines 39-67, *Suarez* states that "Registration information may be inserted, updated or deleted at any time. Further, *Suarez* states "The Directory Service can be accessed by other services to create, update and delete registered information." Nowhere in this recitation does *Suarez* disclose that the capabilities of the processing service of step (1) of Claim 24 are updated in response to the first Host distributed device coupling to the network to process workloads for distributed processing system. In column 21, lines 35-51, *Suarez* is describing his "Event Service" and states "The Event service provides the ability to create, update, publish and subscribe to global or system defined events." Nowhere in this recitation does *Suarez* disclose that the capabilities of the processing service of step (1) of Claim 24 are updated in response to the first Host distributed device coupling to the network to process workloads for distributed processing system as recited in step (2) of Claim 24.

The Examiner states that *Suarez* does not explicitly disclose step (1) of Claim 24 that recites "generating an offer to provide processing services available only by a processing capability provided by the distributed processing system. Step (1) of Claim 24 recites generating an offer of a particular incentive (to provide processing services available only by the distributed processing system). The incentive is generated for a Host distributed device to join (agree to process workloads for the

distributed processing system) the distributed processing system. The Examiner, however, states that *Mersenne* teaches the invention in step (1) of Claim 24 and cites the disclosure of *Mersenne* utilizes the "distributed computing power harnessed by Entropia.com's PrimeNet system" and "offers a means of financial compensation for computer time contributed to its customers' computing projects" in support of his argument. *Mersenne* is offering "financial compensation" to its customers' computing projects for computer time. The processing service provided by the PrimeNet system disclosed by *Mersenne* is determining large prime numbers. *Mersenne* does not disclose offering its customers' the use of the PrimeNet system so that the customer can calculate the largest prime number (processing service available only by the PrimeNet system), *Mersenne* offers a means of financial compensation. Further, *Mersenne* does not disclose that the offer is in exchange for joining the distributed processing system to process workloads. *Mersenne* discloses offering financial compensation for computer time. Claim 24 does not recite anything regarding computer time, only that an offer to provide processing services (available only by the distributed processing system) for joining the distributed processing system to process workloads (undisclosed) for the distributed processing system. The Applicant asserts that *Mersenne* does not teach or suggest the invention of Claim 24. *Mersenne* makes no disclosure regarding step (2) and step (3) of Claim 24. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* is traversed by the above arguments.

Claim 25 is dependent from Claim 24 and contains all the limitations of Claim 24. Claim 25 adds two steps to the method of Claim 24. In step (1) of Claim 25, an advertisement is sent to the first Host distributed device (of Claim 24) of recommended upgrades to capabilities the first Host distributed device may make in exchange for access to improved processing services from the distributed processing system. In step (2) of Claim 25, an improved processing service is granted to the first Host distributed device in response to a notification and verification by the Server system that the first Host distributed device has made the recommended upgrades.

The Examiner did not specifically address the steps of Claim 25 except to reject Claim 25 for the same reasons as he rejected Claim 24. The Applicant asserts that the Examiner has failed to make a *prima facie* case of obviousness relative to Claim 25 by failing to specifically address the added limitations of Claim 25. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claim 24.

Claim 35 is an independent claim directed to a computer program product implementing the method of Claim 24. The Examiner rejected Claim 35 for the same reason as Claim 24. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claim 24.

Claim 36 is dependent from Claim 35 and contains all the limitations of Claim 35. Claim 36 adds the same limitation to Claim 35 that Claim 25 adds to Claim 24. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claims 24 and 35.

Claim 45 is an independent claim directed to a software agent for operation within each of a multiplicity of Host distributed devices coupled to a network, the network configured to enable a Server system to selectively couple the multiplicity of Host distributed devices to perform workloads for a distributed processing system, the software agent comprising a program of instructions for performing two program steps. In step (1), operations of a first Host distributed device are monitored within the multiplicity of Host distributed devices. In step (2), a workload request is generated to the Server system for the distributed processing system to process selected workloads in order to enhance a first operation of the first Host distributed device in response to a user requesting the first operation, wherein the workload request is transparent to the user of the first Host distributed device requesting the



first operation. The Examiner did not specifically address the steps of Claim 45 except to reject Claim 45 for the same reasons as he rejected Claim 24. The Applicant asserts that the Examiner has failed to make a *prima facie* case of obviousness relative to Claim 45 by failing to specifically address the steps of Claim 45. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 45 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claim 24.

Claim 46 is dependent from Claim 45 and contains all the limitations of Claim 45. Claim 46 adds the limitation that "the first Host distributed device receives the software agent (of Claim 45) in response to an incentive to couple to the network as one of the multiplicity of Host distributed devices in exchange for access to processing services provided exclusively by a capability of the distributed processing system." The Examiner did not specifically address the limitation of Claim 46 except to reject Claim 46 for the same reasons as he rejected Claim 24. The Applicant asserts that the Examiner has failed to make a *prima facie* case of obviousness relative to Claim 46 by failing to specifically address the limitations of Claim 46. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claims 24 and 45.

Claims 26-28, 30-32, 37-39 and 41-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez* in view of *Mersenne* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,031,089 to *Liu* (hereafter "*Liu*").

Claim 26 is dependent from Claim 24 and contains all the limitations of Claim 24. Claim 26 adds the limitation that the Server system (of Claim 24) sends a software agent to the first Host distributed device to monitor operations of the first Host distributed device and request that the distributed processing system process selected workloads in order to enhance operations of the first Host distributed device, wherein the software agent operates independent of a user of the first Host distributed

device. The Examiner states *Suarez* and *Mersenne* do not explicitly disclose the limitation of Claim 26. The Applicant has shown that *Suarez* and *Mersenne*, singly or in combination, do not teach or suggest the invention of Claim 24. However, the Examiner states that *Liu* discloses the invention of Claim 26 and cites *Liu*, column 7, lines 13-41. The Examiner does not state that *Liu* teaches or suggests the invention of Claim 24. In column 7, lines 13-41, *Liu* describes the logic present at each node of his distributed processing system. First logic calculates and saves a workload value as a function of the number of jobs on the nodes queue. Second logic transfers the workload value to the other nodes on request from the other nodes. Finally, third logic checks if the workload value is below a pre-established value indicating that the node is under utilized. The Examiner states it would be obvious to combine this reference with *Suarez* and *Mersenne* to "load balance the workloads of members of the distributed systems to not overload or underutilize any particular host." Claim 24 is not directed to load balancing among distributed devices in a distributed processing system. Claim 24 is directed to generating an offer of a particular incentive (providing a processing service available only by processing capabilities of the distributed processing system) for a first Host distributed device to join (couple to the network) to process workloads for the distributed device, providing the particular incentive and updating the capabilities of the processing services in response to the first Host distributed device actually joining the distributed processing system. Claim 24 and 26 are directed to making the processing power (processing service) of the distributed processing system available to a first Host distributed device as a particular incentive for the first Host distributed device to join the distributed processing system to process workloads (increase the processing capabilities of the distributed processing system), providing the processing service and updating the capabilities of the distributed processing systems to provide the processing service in response to the first Host distributed device actually joining the distributed processing system by coupling to the network. The Applicant asserts that *Liu* adds nothing regarding the invention of Claim 24. The Applicant has shown that the Examiner's argument that Claim 24 and 26 are directed to load balancing is incorrect and

therefore the Examiner's argument that *Liu* teaches load balancing does not read on the present invention of Claim 24 and 26. *Liu* does not mention any software agent in column 7, lines 13-41 and specifically does not teach or suggest the software agent of Claim 26. The Examiner fails to address the function of the software agent recited in Claim 26; rather, the Examiner states that *Liu* teaches "having logic that determines the current state of the workload and transfers out or requests more jobs accordingly." Since the Examiner admits that *Liu* teaches logic directed to load balancing, the Applicant asserts that the teachings of *Liu* are not directed to the invention of Claim 26. The Applicant asserts that *Liu*, *Suarez* and *Mersenne*, singly or in combination, do not teach or suggest the invention of Claim 26. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* and further in view of *Liu* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claim 24.

Claim 37 is dependent from Claim 35 and contains all the limitations of Claim 35. Claim 37 adds the same limitation to Claim 35 that Claim 26 adds to Claim 24. The Examiner rejected Claim 37 for the same reasons as Claim 26. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claims 24, 26 and 35.

Claim 27 is dependent from Claim 24 and contains all the limitations of Claim 24. Claim 27 adds the limitation that the first Host distributed device is assigned a priority for sending Host workloads for processing on the distributed processing system as an incentive for coupling to the network to process workloads for the distributed processing system. The Examiner states that *Suarez*, *Mersenne*, and *Liu* disclose the invention of Claims 27-28, 30, and 38-39 adding "see claims 24 and 35 rejection as detailed above." The Examiner then adds that "furthermore *Liu* discloses, the limitation of Claim 27 and cites *Liu*, column 9, lines 64-column 10, line 9 and column 13, lines 16-22." Again, the Examiner admits that the cited teachings of *Suarez*, *Mersenne*, and *Liu* are directed to load balancing. The Applicant has shown

that the base Claims 24 and 35 are directed to load balancing. Claim 27 has the limitation that a priority is assigned to the first Host distributed device as an (another) incentive to join the distributed processing system. The priority of Claim 27 has nothing to do with load balancing wherein the first Host distributed device processes workloads; rather, the priority has to do with the first Host distributed device's submission of "Host workloads to the distributed processing system." The first Host distributed device has an incentive to join the distributed processing system to process workloads for the distributed processing system is assigned a priority for submitting Host workloads it wants processed by the distributed processing system. Normally the first Host distributed device process workloads for the distributed processing system. According to the invention of Claim 27, the distributed processing system is processing a Host workload for the first Host distributed device according to a priority assigned as an incentive for the first Host distributed device to join the distributed processing system. By his assertion that *Suarez*, *Mersenne*, and *Liu* read on load balancing, the Examiner has admitted the these references, either singly or in combination, do not teach or suggest the invention of Claim 27. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* and further in view of *Liu* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claim 24.

Claim 28 is dependent from Claim 27 and contains all the limitations of Claim 27. Claim 28 adds the limitation that the Server system makes an offer to sell application software to the first Host distributed device in response to the first Host distributed device having an assigned priority for sending Host workloads for processing on the distributed processing system, wherein the application software executes by processing workloads exclusively on the distributed processing system. The Examiner did not specifically address the limitation of Claim 28 except to reject Claim 28 for the same reasons as he rejected Claim 27. The Applicant asserts that the Examiner has failed to make a *prima facie* case of obviousness relative to Claim 28 by failing to specifically address the limitation of Claim 28. Therefore, the Applicant

respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* and further in view of *Liu* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claims 24 and 27.

Claim 30 is dependent from Claim 29 and contains all the limitations of Claim 29. Claim 29 has allowable limitations and is dependent from Claim 28. Claim 28 is dependent from Claim 27 and Claim 27 is dependent from Claim 24. Claim 30 adds the limitation that the enhanced function (of Claim 29) is a document edit function. By his own admission, Claim 29 has allowable material and is not taught or suggested by *Suarez*, *Mersenne*, or *Liu*. The Applicant has shown that *Suarez*, *Mersenne*, and *Liu*, singly or in combination, do not teach or suggest the invention of Claims 24 or 27. The Applicant has shown that the Examiner did not make a *prima facie* case of obviousness relative to Claim 28 by failing to specifically address the limitation of Claim 28. Therefore, the Applicant asserts that the rejection of Claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* and further in view of *Liu* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claims 24, 27, 28, and 29.

Claim 38 is dependent from Claim 35 and contains all the limitations of Claim 35. Claim 38 adds the same limitation to Claim 35 that Claim 27 adds to Claim 24. The Examiner rejected Claim 38 for the same reasons as Claim 27. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* and further in view of *Liu* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claims 24, 27 and 35.

Claim 39 is dependent from Claim 38 and contains all the limitations of Claim 38. Claim 39 adds the same limitation to Claim 38 that Claim 28 adds to Claim 27. The Examiner rejected Claim 39 for the same reasons as Claim 27. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* and further in view of *Liu* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claims 24, 27, 35, and 38.

Claim 31 is dependent from Claim 30 and contains all the limitations of Claim 30. Claim 31 adds the limitation that the enhanced function (of Claim 29) is a database search function. The Examiner states that *Suarez*, *Mersenne*, and *Liu* disclose the invention of Claims 31-32, and 41-42 adding "see claims 29 and 35 rejection as detailed above." The Examiner then adds that "furthermore *Liu* discloses, the limitation of Claim 31 and cites *Suarez*, column 13, lines 39-67 and column 21, lines 37-51." First, the Applicant asserts that the Examiner has not stated that *Liu* teaches or suggest anything relative to Claims 29 and 35. Secondly, the Examiner has stated that Claim 29 has allowable material and made no arguments relative to this claim except that the Examiner objects to Claim 29 as depending from rejected Claims 28, 27, and 24. The Applicant has shown that *Suarez*, *Mersenne*, and *Liu*, singly or in combination, do not teach or suggest the limitations of Claims 24, 27 and 28. The Examiner does not specifically address the limitation of Claim 31 except to reject Claim 31 for the same reasons as he rejected Claims 29 and 35. See Examiner's assertion on page 6 of this Office Action. The Applicant asserts that the Examiner has failed to make a *prima facie* case of obviousness relative to Claim 31 by failing to specifically address the limitation of Claim 31. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* and further in view of *Liu* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claims 24, 30, and 29.

The Examiner states that *Suarez* discloses the limitation of Claim 32 and states "the database search function is processed by an internet search engine which returns to the first Host distributed device a selection of files in response to the database search function" and cites *Suarez*, column 13, lines 39-67 and column 21, lines 37-51. In column 21, lines 37-51, *Suarez* describes his "Event Service." There is no mention of database search function, internet search engine, etc., in this recitation. In column 13, lines 39-67, *Suarez* describes his Registration information. In only one place does *Suarez* mention database as follows: "Any issues concerning the physical aspects of the Repository used to maintain the registered information, (i.e., which

vendor database management system is storing the information) is consolidated within the Directory Service, which is described more fully below." Claim 32 has to be read in context with Claims 31, 29, 28, 27 and 24 from which it depends. The Examiner has failed to point out where *Suarez* discloses the "enhanced function" of Claim 31 is a database search function described by a logic character string, and the database search function is processed by an internet search engine which returns to the first Host distributed device a selection of files in response to the database search function. Further, the application software of Claim 29, which has allowable material, launches the enhanced function in place of normal functions executed by the first Host distributed device. The Applicant asserts that the Examiner has failed to make a *prima facie* case of obviousness relative to Claim 31 by failing to specifically address the limitation of Claim 31. The Applicant has shown that *Suarez* does not disclose the invention of Claims 24, 27, 28, and 29. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of Claim 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* and further in view of *Liu* is traversed for the above reasons and for the same reasons as Claims 24, 29, and 31.

### III. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner stated that Claims 29, 33-34, 40, and 43-44 have allowable material. The Applicant has added new Claims 47-61 to capture the allowable material as suggested by the Examiner. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing this material.

IV. CONCLUSION

Claims 24-61 are pending.

Claims 47-61 have been added to capture allowable material.

The Applicant has traversed the rejections of Claims 24-25, 35-36, and 45-46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne*.

The Applicant has traversed the rejections of Claims 26-28, 30-32, 37-39, and 41-42 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suarez*, in view of *Mersenne* further in view of *Liu*.

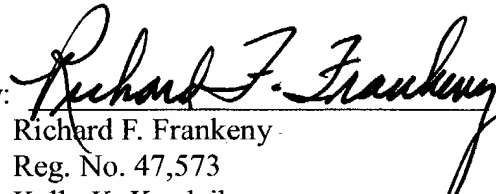
The Applicants, therefore, respectfully assert that new Claims 24-61 are in condition for allowance and request an early allowance of these claims.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call Applicants' attorney at the below listed number if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining problems.

Respectfully submitted,

WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C.

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